

Serial No. 10/016,468
Amendment and Response dated July 22, 2004
in Reply to Office Action dated May 6, 2004

Remarks

Claims 1, 3-22 and 24-61 are pending in this application. The indicated allowability of claims 14-22 and 24-41 has been withdrawn in view of the newly-discovered references, U.S. Patent Nos. 5,777,810 and 3,335,693, both issued to Murray, Jr. (Murray, Jr. '810 and Murray, Jr. '693, respectively). More specifically, the Office Action rejected all of the claims as being obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Murray, Jr., '810, by itself, and in combination with other previously-cited references. Claims 54-57 and 59 were objected to because of antecedent informalities.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections of the Office Action to the extent that they are maintained. Applicant has nonetheless amended claims 1, 21-22, 42, 54-57, and 59 in deference to the Examiner.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended in the telephone interview between the Examiner and Applicant's representative on June 29, 2004. In the interview, proposed amendments to the claims to address the art-based rejections were discussed. Based upon the proposed amendments, the Examiner indicated that the proposed amendments overcame the art of record. To this end, each independent claim has been amended to recite a pliable structure useful, for instance, in signaling the presence of a user.

As discussed during the interview, none of the prior art teaches, suggests or motivates such a feature. Murray, Jr. '810 in particular, which forms the basis for all of the

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rejections of the Office Action, is directed to a rigid signal mirror that teaches away from the pliable features that allow Applicant's invention to resiliently maintain its molded shape for optimized display.

Applicant therefore submits that all pending claims are patentable over the prior art of record, and reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are accordingly respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding the foregoing, or which might otherwise further the case onto allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at 513-241-2324. Moreover, if there are any charges or credits that are necessary to complete this communication, please apply them to Deposit Account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

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